



**ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (S.E.A.C.)**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
March 19, 2024
DT Walkom/Teams
12:00 Start Time**

Present: P. Mick (Member-At-Large), M. Tuomi, (Autism Ontario), A. Gauthier (Thrive Child Development Centre), M. Barbeau (Community Living Algoma), Clinton Snider (Algoma Family Services), Velma Simon (Member-at-Large)

Trustees: S. Evans (Trustee), H. Whitley (Trustee)

Staff: B. Vallee (Superintendent), C. Phillips (Recording Secretary), K. Viita (System Administrator)

Regrets: S. Kitts (North Shore Tribal Council)

Meeting called to order following our reflection. With the approval of Chair Mick, Superintendent Vallee to facilitate the remainder of the hybrid meeting.

1. Welcome

2. Round Table - Introduction of members, staff, and guests.

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- Approval of Agenda. Moved by M. Barbeau. Seconded by M. Tuomi. All in favour.
- Approval of Minutes (February 2024). Moved by H. Whitley. Seconded by C. Snider. All in favour.

4. Correspondence: Waterloo Region District School Board SEAC re: SIP funding.

5. Presentation/Discussion: *Putting the “I” into IEP: Development Processes (K. Viita)*

K Viita provided a presentation on Individual Education Plans. Topics covered in the presentation included:

- Universal Design for Learning/Differentiated Instruction/Tiered Support Approaches
- Defining Special Education Programs and Services
- Who receives an IEP (e.g. IPRC vs IEP only)
- Overview of the IEP development process
- What an IEP is (and what it is not)

- Accommodations, Modifications and Alternative Program expectations

6. Member Organization Updates

Velma Simon (Member-at-Large)

- School year for CICE program will be completed by the end of April.
- Working with students on professional portfolios.
- Great connection with community partners
- Transitioning students into year 2 and working on bringing in new students for next year.

A. Gauthier (Thrive Child Development Centre)

- Nothing to report.

M. Tuomi (Autism Ontario)

- *Celebrate the Spectrum*- Celebration of World Autism Day takes place April 2, 2024.
- Reminder about monthly support group sessions e.g. *Awesome Moms/ Rad Dads*
- Webinars to support parents are on-going e.g. *Paperwork Parties*- this is very helpful for parents to figure out the many paperwork requirements.

P. Mick (Member- At-Large)

- Nothing to report this month.

M. Barbeau (Community Living Algoma)

- *Together We're Better* contest had great participation. Submissions closed on February 29, 2024. Results/ winners will be announced on April 8, 2024.
- Summer Employment program - approximately 70 clients looking for job placements and received approximately 150 resumes from job coach candidates (secondary & post-secondary). Interviews will begin towards the end of March.

Clint Snider (Algoma Family Services)

- Nothing to report.

7. Report from the Board (Trustees)

- Board received a presentation from Northern Heights Public School teacher Erin Corcoran and 12 of her students to demonstrate some of the work happening in primary classrooms on structured literacy approaches.
- Review of policy and procedures is ongoing.

8. Report from Administration (B. Vallee & K. Viita)

- **Transitions Update:** Preparing for next phase of the transition process, which will be school-based meetings taking place in May. This requires a high degree of planning to coordinate meetings with multiple community partners, school board personnel, school-based staff and parents.
- **Kindergarten Registration Continues.** Kindergarten registration continues for students born in 2020, as well as those born in 2019 that may not have attended school this year. Very helpful to have families register as early as possible as this certainly helps with preliminary planning for the 2024-2025 school year.
- **SERT/SPT Professional Learning:** We hosted a full-day of in-person professional learning for our SERTs on February 23rd. Our morning focused on using assessments

to program for students. This included a focus on different aspects of a psychological-educational assessment led by Amanda Naccarato (SEAT: Formal Assessment) and an overview of a speech-language assessment led by Sara Amato and Lianne Vezeau (Speech-Language Pathologists). The remainder of the morning was a focus on considerations including modified programming in IEPs. During the afternoon, SERTs rotated through a series of breakout sessions on the following topics: *Remediation Group Profiles*, *Language Intervention Groups*, *Using the IEP Checklist*, and *Tier One Supports for ASD/Behvaieur*. Next full-day session for our SERTs will take place on Friday, March 22nd.

- **Shelley Moore Sessions (March 19th):** Unfortunately, Shelley had to cancel Session #3, originally booked for February 28th. Accordingly, Session #3 is going to be provided during our next previously booked time-slot which takes place this afternoon from 3:00-5:00. We have added an additional session on Wednesday, April 24th to accommodate Session 4, and then Session 5 will take place on May 30th as originally scheduled.

9. Next Meeting: April 23, 2024

10. Motion to adjourn: Moved by A. Gauthier. Seconded by M. Tuomi.

Meeting adjourned at 1:18